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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 021331-000710US

Fax No.: 703-872-9306

On 4/23/04

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: [Signature]

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APR 23 2004

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Raymond Wellman

Application No.: 10/765,707

Filed: January 26, 2004

For: SLIP COLLAR

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and
§1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of Foreign Patent Document EP 0 582 543 (Reference BB) is enclosed. In accordance with the USPTO's decision to waive the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting U.S. published applications and patents in applications filed after June 30, 2003, applicant has not submitted copies of U.S. patent references.

It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Raymond Wellman
Application No.: 10/765,707
Page 2

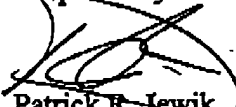
PATENT

It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


Patrick R. Jewik
Reg. No. 40,456

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60200829 v1

PTO/SB/06A (08-03)

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/765,707
				Filing Date	January 26, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Wellman, Raymond
				Art Unit	Unassigned
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	021331-000710US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	US	545,877	09-10-1896	Curllett	
	AB	US	1,782,788	06-10-1930	De Garay	
	AC	US	2,353,883	07-18-1944	Dickey	
	AD	US	2,380,159	10-10-1944	Peck	
	AE	US	3,253,841	06-31-1968	Ahmad	
	AF	US	3,387,884	06-11-1968	Walters	
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	AH	US	3,512,805	05-18-1970	Glatz	
	AI	US	3,600,010	08-17-1971	Downs et al.	
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	AK	US	3,839,877	02-01-1972	Bain	
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	AN	US	3,798,057	08-12-1974	Dougherty	
	AO	US	4,043,857	08-23-1977	Byrne et al.	
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	AT	US	5,298,299	03-29-1994	Shea	
	AU	US	5,335,944	08-19-1994	Mizui et al.	
	AV	US	5,505,497	04-09-1998	Shea et al.	
	AW	US	5,549,949	08-27-1998	Williams et al.	
	AX	US	5,991,154	10-05-1999	Williams et al.	
	AY	US	5,961,829	11-09-1999	Cork	
	AZ	US	6,213,522	04-10-2001	Jacobson et al.	
	BA	US	6,322,111	11-27-2001	Brady	
	BB	US	RE3,788	12-21-1969	Lawton et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³	Number ²	Kind Code ⁴ (if known)			
	BC	EP	0 582 543	A1	02-06-1994	Haener	Abstract

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Atty Docket No. 021331-000710US

PTO FAX NO.: (703) 872-9306

ATTENTION: Examiner (not assigned)
TELEPHONE NO.:

Group Art Unit (not assigned)

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the following documents in re Application of Raymond Wellman, Application No. 10/765,707, filed January 26, 2004 for SLIP COLLAR are being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Document(s) Attached

1. Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/21)
2. Information Disclosure Statement with Form PTO/SB/08A

Number of pages being transmitted, including this page: 5

Dated: April 23, 2004


Michael Nowak

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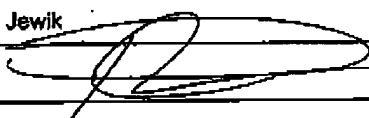
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60201161 v1

PTO/SB/21 (08-03)

TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>		Application Number	10/765,707
		Filing Date	January 26, 2004
		First Named Inventor	Wellman, Raymond
		Art Unit	Unassigned
		Examiner Name	Unassigned
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	4	Attorney Docket Number	021331-000710US

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Cited Reference EP 0 582 543
Remarks		The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 20-1430.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual	Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP Patrick R. Jewik Reg. No. 40,456
Signature	
Date	April 23, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on April 23, 2004.	
Typed or printed name	Michael Nowak
Signature	
Date	April 23, 2004

60201113 v1